

Adult Literacy Contact Centre NEWSLETTER



April 1994

Volume 7, Number 4

A project of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C.

2nd Annual Canada Post Awards for Literacy

The Canada Post Corporation invites submissions for its second annual Flight for Freedom Awards. The national awards "recognize the important contributions to the cause of literacy" by organizations, businesses, educators and individuals in four categories:

❖ The Governor General's Flight for Freedom Award:

honours a literacy organization showing long-term achievement, innovation, leadership, and organizational excellence.

❖ The Corporate Canada Literacy Award:

honours a company that has established literacy skills upgrading programs in the workplace, or shown leadership in community literacy activities.

❖ The Literacy Education Award:

honours an educator for that individual's dedication and commitment to literacy.

❖ The Individual Achievement Award:

honours an individual who has participated

in a work or community literacy program and who has succeeded in improving his or her literacy skills.

Last year's English-speaking winner in the Literacy Education Award category was from B.C. It was Thomas Quigley, a librarian with the Vancouver Public Library.

Submissions will be evaluated "by a panel of representatives from Canadian literacy groups, business leaders and educators."

The award winners will be announced on International Literacy Day, September 8, 1994.

Final submissions must be received by June 30, 1994.

Submission guidelines and eligibility criteria are available by mail from:

Flight for Freedom Awards
Canada Post Corporation
2701 Riverside Drive
Suite N0640
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0B1 ☐



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BBQ Season Fuels Local Literacy Initiatives

Superior Propane Inc. - a major Canadian propane marketer - will sponsor its second annual week-long "Fill for Literacy" campaign next month.

For one week, from Saturday May 14 to Saturday May 21, 1994, Superior will donate \$1.00 to literacy from the sale of every barbecue cylinder fillup at participating locations across Canada. Superior Propane Inc. is a major Canadian propane marketer with over 100 branches across Canada.

On May 14, "Community Relations Day," there will be on-site barbecue cookouts, refreshments, entertainment, childrens' activities and prizes at 10 participating locations in B.C. On that day, barbecue cylinder propane fill-ups will be a special price of \$2.99 plus taxes.

The money raised during the campaign will be used to support local literacy organizations. Last year's "Fill for Literacy" campaign -- the first year the event was held -- raised approximately \$56,000 across Canada. The goal this year is to surpass that amount.

Coupons necessary to make the \$1.00 donation will be available

at participating Superior Propane locations, and in community papers.

The participating locations in B.C. are: Burns Lake; Campbell River; Coquitlam; Cranbrook; Fort St. John; Kamloops; Nanaimo; Prince George; Vernon; and Victoria.

For further information, contact:

Rick Ursel, Area Sales Manager
Superior Propane Inc.
51 Glacier Street
Coquitlam, B.C.
V3K 5Y6
Phone: 941-6231
Fax: 941-1808 ☐

Laubach Launches Provincial Organization

An inaugural meeting to establish a provincial organization in B.C. will be held during a Laubach Literacy of Canada conference April 22 - 24, 1994 in Vancouver.

The conference, to be combined with a "tutor appreciation and student celebration" evening, is open to the public.

Laubach Literacy of Canada is a non-profit organization that uses more than 9,500 volunteer tutors across Canada to teach literacy skills to adults. The Laubach method of teaching, reading and writing was developed by Dr. Frank Laubach, a missionary in the

Philippines, in the 1930's. The teaching materials used by Laubach are published by New Readers Press, the publishing arm of Laubach Literacy International. Laubach Literacy of Canada has been an independent affiliate of Laubach Literacy International since 1981. Its head office is in Saint John, New Brunswick.

There are 150 Laubach Literacy Councils nationally, and, at present, seven in B.C. These are in Chase, Golden, Kamloops, Richmond, Surrey/White Rock, Vancouver and Victoria.

The meeting to formalize Laubach as a provincial organization in B.C. takes place on April 24, followed by a discussion on "Where does Laubach B.C. go from here?"

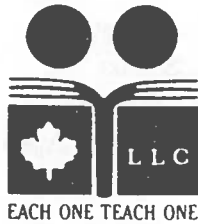
Two workshops are scheduled for April 23: "Learning Disabilities," with Betty Schultze, Vice President, Learning Disabilities Association of B.C. - Vancouver Branch; and "Westcoast Reader," with Joan Acosta, *Westcoast Reader* editor, who will demonstrate to tutors how to use the newspaper with their students.

The keynote speaker at the Saturday potluck dinner is Lee Weinstein, Kwantlen regional representative for Literacy B.C. (who is currently on leave from the Invergarry Learning Centre, Surrey School District). His topic is "Community Literacy."

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The conference will be held at the YMCA of Greater Vancouver.



For further information, contact:

Crystal Lee, Laubach Coordinator
c/o YMCA Enterprise Centre
203 - 888 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6Z 1X9
Phone: 685-8066
Fax: 684-3255 ☐

New ABE Facilities Planned for Houston

A new campus of Northwest Community College in Houston, B.C. to be built this year will accommodate expanded adult basic education (ABE) programs.

The announcement of the \$1.2 million project was made on March 12, 1994 by Dan Miller, Minister of Skills, Training and Labour; and Jackie Pement, MLA for Bulkley Valley-Stikine and Minister of Transportation and Highways.

Construction of the new building on 14th Street is expected to begin this May, with occupancy planned for January 1995.

The curriculum at the new campus will include the whole range of ABE programs.

The new campus will also incorporate a classroom for a new "Career Development" program, funded by Canada Employment and Immigration and the Ministry of Social Services. Ralph Trotsky, Assistant Director, Houston Campus, Northwest Community College, describes this new program as "half time ABE, and half time career exploration, life skills and employment training."

In addition, the new campus will accommodate the activities of Project Literacy Houston. Trotsky says the organization will have its own office with computer facilities and furnishings, and will share ABE classroom space for meetings and one-to-one tutoring. ☐

Alberta Invites Literacy Proposals

The Alberta Association for Adult Literacy invites presentation proposals from individuals or groups active in the literacy field for its annual conference to be held November 17 - 19, 1994.

The theme of the conference is "Words of Change. The literacy movement: how do we continue to grow, empower ourselves and others?"

Presentations are invited on topics such as: aboriginal issues; learning difficulties; workforce/workplace issues; literacy and the family; and publishing learner materials.

The conference will be held at the Alberta Vocational College in Lesser Slave Lake.

All proposals must be postmarked by April 29, 1994.

For further information, contact:

Jan Thiessen, Program Committee
Words of Change Conference
Alberta Vocational College - Lesser Slave Lake
Box 1280
Slave Lake, Alberta
T0G 2A0
Phone: (403) 849-8714
Fax: (403) 849-3312 ☐

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684-0624 Lower Mainland
684-8520 Fax

The Adult Literacy Contact Centre is a project of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. and is jointly funded by the Ministry of Skills, Training and Labour; and the National Literacy Secretariat.

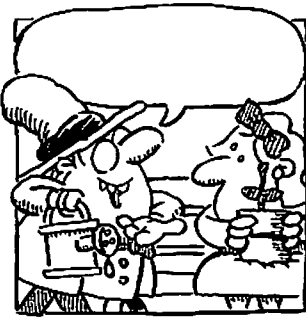
The Centre welcomes receiving your literacy news by phone, fax or mail. We reserve the right to edit written submissions for the newsletter.

The newsletter is published monthly (except as noted). It is available free of charge to any individual or agency upon request.



NEW RESOURCE

The Wordless Book



A comic book, intended as an innovative resource for literacy instruction, has been released by the National Literacy Secretariat and The Employment Group of Human Resources Development Canada.

The Wordless Book contains 24 pages of black and white illustrations of stories without words -- instead, the stories have open "balloons" in which learners can write dialogue, narrative, titles or whatever they choose to complete the stories.

It was launched on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on February 17, 1994 (Literacy Action Day) by Senator Joyce Fairbairn, Leader of the government in the Senate and Minister with special responsibility for literacy.

Literacy organizations such as ABC Canada, Frontier College, and "People, Words and Change" (an Ottawa adult learning centre), participated in the development of the project,

which included a needs assessment and field testing.

The Wordless Book contains 17 adult-oriented stories for learners and tutors to work on together. A four-page tear-out teaching guide, written in both official languages, is included.

The book was created "to motivate Canadian adults to improve their literacy skills in order to participate in job retraining."

The types of stories range from "factual to fantastic, from the trauma of real life to the limitless boundaries of the imagination."

Some sample stories are:

- ❖ A woman is watching TV and her remote control begins to shake for no reason. When she clicks it, she begins to change some things in her life.
- ❖ A man offers flowers, a diamond ring, and the keys to his car to a woman.
- ❖ A weary man is sitting beside a penguin in a bar.

Copies of *The Wordless Book* are available free of charge from:

National Literacy Secretariat
Human Resources Development
Canada
25 Eddy Street
Hull, Quebec
K1A 1K5
Phone: (819) 953-5280
Fax: (819) 953-8076 □

New Personnel at NLS

The National Literacy Secretariat (NLS) has announced the following appointments, effective April 5, 1994.

Jim Page will move from his position as Director General, Education Support, to undertake new responsibilities as the Director General, NLS.

Cathy Chapman, formerly Acting Director General, NLS, will assume new responsibilities as Director, Employability Improvement, in the Employment Group, Human Resources Development Canada. □

CAN YOU HELP ?

COMPUTERS NEEDED...

The Adult Learning Disabilities Association (ALDA) seeks donations of used computer equipment. Obsolete or broken equipment is acceptable. The equipment will be used to provide education, rehabilitation and skills to learning disabled adults. All donations are tax deductible. If you can help, contact:

Adult Learning Disabilities
Association
1322 - 510 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 1L8
Phone: 683-5554
Fax: 683-2380